

# Memorandum



To : SAC, CHICAGO (9B-CG-NEW)

Date 4/13/92

From : SA [redacted]

Subject: [redacted]

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RICHARD C. GREGORY, aka DICK GREGORY - VICTIM;  
EXTORTION;  
OO: CHICAGO

*70 card to advised no impleader*  
*R*

On April 10, 1992<sup>SR</sup>, at approximately 10:15 a.m., Attorney [redacted] Chicago, Illinois, telephone [redacted] telephonically contacted the complaint duty agent at the Chicago FBI office to furnish information regarding an extortion involving his client, DICK GREGORY. On the line with [redacted] were DICK GREGORY and his wife [redacted]

GREGORY advised that his full name is RICHARD C. GREGORY. He was born October 12, 1932, in St. Louis, Missouri. He and his wife [redacted] reside at Tower Hill Farm, Independence Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02361, telephone (508) 224-6706, and they have Post Office Box 3270, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02361.

GREGORY is currently doing business as CORRECTION CONNECTION INCORPORATED (CCI), DICK GREGORY HEALTH ENTERPRISES, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His business partner is [redacted] who resides in Baltimore, Maryland, and has telephone [redacted]. GREGORY markets a weight-loss product known as the Bahamian Diet. GREGORY received a lot of publicity when he worked with WALTER HUDSON, a man who weighed about 1500 pounds and lost weight using the Bahamian Diet. HUDSON subsequently regained the weight, and he recently died.

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GREGORY related that Chicago resident [redacted] began calling him at his residence in Massachusetts more than a year ago, and he has been calling continually since that time. When [redacted] began calling, he weighed more than 800 pounds. GREGORY talked to [redacted] about his diet and advised him to eat nothing but rice at night. GREGORY gave [redacted] tips on flavoring the rice, and he sent [redacted] a couple of cases of the Bahamian

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Diet at no charge. GREGORY has also been trying to locate a residential weight-loss facility for [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] was very enthusiastic about the diet and told GREGORY that he was losing a lot of weight.

In late 1991, talk show host MONTEL WILLIAMS asked GREGORY if he could recommend an overweight person to appear on a show he was doing about people who were stared at. GREGORY recommended [REDACTED] and his girlfriend subsequently appeared on WILLIAMS' television show in Los Angeles.

In January, 1992, GREGORY, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] appeared on the GERALDO RIVERA show.

[REDACTED] also appeared on a local program in Cincinnati.

About 10 days to 2 weeks ago, a man who identified himself as [REDACTED] called the GREGORY residence in Massachusetts and spoke to [REDACTED] asked for DICK GREGORY and was told that GREGORY was not there. [REDACTED] said that he was calling about [REDACTED]. He said that GREGORY had [REDACTED] on his products and had promised to put [REDACTED] in a weight-loss facility, but he had not done it. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was not doing well, and [REDACTED] wanted to speak to DICK GREGORY immediately. [REDACTED] said that if he did not hear from GREGORY immediately, he was going to get lawyers. [REDACTED] left his telephone number, [REDACTED] said that she would give her husband the message.

[REDACTED] has also called [REDACTED] within the last two weeks, and [REDACTED] has tried to contact GREGORY.

Recently, [REDACTED] called [REDACTED] in Baltimore and said that they were going to go to the press because Mr. GREGORY had not contacted them. He urged [REDACTED] to have GREGORY contact them right away, and he said that they were both black brothers and it didn't have to end like this if only Mr. GREGORY would call.

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On Thursday morning, April 9, 1992, [REDACTED] contacted GREGORY and GREGORY instructed [REDACTED] to tell [REDACTED] to do whatever he wanted to do. [REDACTED] related the message to [REDACTED]

Later that day, [REDACTED] from CBS, Chicago, telephone [REDACTED] contacted the GREGORYs and [REDACTED]. He stated that [REDACTED] had told CBS that he had never used GREGORY's product, among other things. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was considering airing the story.

GREGORY stated that no money ever changed hands between him and [ ] and they had no written agreements. GREGORY wanted to help [ ] lose weight, and he knew that [ ] did not have much money, so he did not charge [ ] anything for the Bahamian Diet. GREGORY was also willing to make arrangements for [ ] to enter a weight-loss facility at no cost to [ ]

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[ ] has telephone [ ]

On April 10, 1992, at approximately 11 a.m., [ ] born [ ] telephone [ ] telephonically contacted writer at the request of GREGORY and GREGORY's attorney. [ ] advised he is GREGORY's business partner and best friend.

[ ] advised that his first contact with [ ] was in [ ] [ ] facilitated the travel for [ ] and his girlfriend, [ ] when they traveled to Los Angeles to appear on the MONTEL WILLIAMS show. [ ] traveled with them to Los Angeles.

At about that time, GREGORY told [ ] that he would try to get [ ] and his girlfriend into a weight-loss facility. GREGORY does not have his own facility, but he has been trying to locate a facility that would accept [ ] and his girlfriend. [ ] advised that for financial and insurance reasons, it has been very difficult to locate a facility that would take [ ]. However, they have found a facility in Mexico that might be willing to take him.

Since the trip to Los Angeles, [ ] has been calling [ ] about once a week, usually on Sunday evenings. [ ] often asks when he will be able to get into the facility, and [ ] tries to explain to him that it will take some time to make the arrangements, and it could take months.

About 10 days ago, [ ] received a call from [ ] the [ ] live-in girlfriend, [ ]. [ ] was on the line with [ ] had a very abrasive and threatening attitude. He demanded to talk to DICK GREGORY and he said that he was tired of this. The fat boy [ ] was not doing well. He had been doing well when he was seeing a doctor, but since he went on the DICK GREGORY diet, he has not been doing well. [ ] said that he was going to contact lawyers and the GERALDO RIVERA people and tell them that [ ] had been used by GREGORY.

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Immediately after the call, [ ] called [ ] back. [ ] said that this was the first time he had heard that [ ] had been seeing a doctor and losing weight before he contacted GREGORY for help. It was also the first time that he had heard that [ ] was having any problems with the DICK GREGORY diet. [ ] told [ ] that if what [ ] said was true, [ ] should go back to seeing the doctor and forget about the DICK GREGORY diet. [ ] again explained to [ ] that it was taking longer than they thought to find a weight-loss facility for [ ] because of financial and insurance problems. [ ] told [ ] that [ ] had called because he was concerned about his daughter, but [ ] noted that [ ] never mentioned his daughter in their conversation. [ ] wanted to know why [ ] was now saying that he had been doing well before and that he was not doing well with the GREGORY diet. [ ] said that he was just frustrated.

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On about April 5, 1992, [ ] received a second call from [ ] asked for DICK GREGORY, and [ ] said that he was not there. [ ] then said, "Listen, I'm just as black as you. I don't want to do anything to hurt another black person. If it were a white person, I wouldn't care. But you and me are black brothers."

[ ] wanted to know when they were going to be able to get [ ] into a facility. He wanted to know why they could not do something at [ ] home. He also offered to let them use a big house in Mississippi which he owns. [ ] told [ ] that they were looking into a place in Mexico, and [ ] then said, "Okay, I'll tell [ ] not to talk to no more people."

During this conversation, [ ] said that BARBARA WALTERS and 20/20 had been calling them. He also said that they had talked to the GERALDO RIVERA people.

On Wednesday, April 8, 1992, [ ] called [ ] and said that if Mr. GREGORY didn't call him, he was going to "start acting crazy."

On Thursday, April 9, 1992, at about 5:45 a.m. Eastern time, [ ] called [ ] and asked for a number where GREGORY could be reached. [ ] said that he did not have a number. [ ] told [ ] to tell GREGORY to call them before 9 a.m. that morning or they would go to the press.

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[ ] was in contact with GREGORY that morning, and GREGORY instructed [ ] to tell [ ] to feel free to contact any press people he wanted and that Mr. GREGORY respected his right to go to the press.

[ ] called [ ] after 9 a.m. and gave him the message from GREGORY. [ ] seemed to back off, and he said something like "I guess Mr. GREGORY is used to people attacking him." [ ] then asked [ ] if he would pray for him, and [ ] said that he would pray that whatever [ ] did, he would be successful in losing weight. [ ] said that he would call [ ] back later.

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Later that day, [ ] received a call from [ ] of CBS in Chicago. [ ] told him that [ ] had said that he had never used the Bahamian Diet and that he had been told to lie when he appeared on the television programs. He had been told to exaggerate what he used to eat and make up other stories. [ ] also said that GREGORY had promised him money. [ ] stated that all of the statements that [ ] made to [ ] were false.

At 10 p.m. Eastern time that night, [ ] called [ ] and [ ] asked him how everything went. [ ] said that everything went fine.

[ ] stated that he felt that [ ] was motivated by personal gain rather than by any concern for [ ] or his daughter.

[ ] speculated that possibly [ ] may have been angry about some advice that GREGORY had given him. Shortly after the GERALDO RIVERA show, [ ] contacted GREGORY and said that the National Enquirer had offered him [ ] several thousand dollars to do a story on his weight loss. [ ] asked GREGORY for his opinion, and GREGORY advised him against accepting the offer because it could prevent him from sharing his story with other media in the future.

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Chicago indices were negative concerning [ ]  
[ ] CORRECTION CONNECTION INC., and [ ]

Chicago indices contain several references to ANTHONY [ ] and [ ] but there is insufficient information available to determine whether or not the references are identical.

Chicago indices contain numerous references to RICHARD CLAXTON GREGORY, born 10/12/32 in St. Louis, Missouri.

Results of FOIMS checks are attached hereto.

SENSITIVE

GREGORY, DICK

DDN:

NO: 001  
REC-NO: 001

TRUE:

FO: CG CASE NO: 100A-0057011-1C  
NAME TYPE: MAIN REF: R EVENT DATE:  
OO: OO CASE NO:

INDEXED: 011189  
MODIFIED:  
SPECIAL:

VIOLATION: DS  
SERIALS: 75P7

RACE: U SEX: U ID-NO:  
DOB: POB:  
STREET NO: NAME:  
CITY:

ST:

COUNTRY: ZIP:  
LOC: IL

MISCELLANEOUS: TELEPHONE 617/224-6706

CLASSIFICATION LEVEL: SN

CLASSIFIED BY:

DECLASSIFY ON:

<GO> -NEXT INDEX

F7 -ADD ALIAS

F1 -REQUERY

F8 -DELETE

F10 -INDEX

SHIFT-F1 -CASE INFO F3 -SUMMARY F6 -ADD INDEX

F9 -MODIFY SHIFT-F10 -FOIMS

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SENSITIVE

GREGORY, RICHARD, C

NO: 001  
REC-NO: 001

DDN:

TRUE:

FO: CG CASE NO: NO-0049513  
NAME TYPE: MAIN REF: R EVENT DATE:

CLASS: 029A  
INDEXED: 081689  
MODIFIED:  
SPECIAL:

VIOLATION: BFE  
SERIALS: 2

RACE: U SEX: U ID-NO:  
DOB: POB:  
STREET NO: NAME:  
CITY:

ST: COUNTRY: ZIP:  
LOC:

MISCELLANEOUS:

CLASSIFICATION LEVEL: SN

CLASSIFIED BY:

DECLASSIFY ON:

<GO> -NEXT INDEX

F7 -ADD ALIAS

F1 -REQUERY F2 -ALIASES

F8 -DELETE

F10 -INDEX

SHIFT-F1 -CASE INFO F3 -SUMMARY F6 -ADD INDEX

F9 -MODIFY SHIFT-F10 -FOIMS

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